

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for the evacuation of lift passengers trapped in a lift cage having a drive unit and weight equalization with a counterweight by moving the lift cage to a story or to a position near a story, characterised by the production of an additional force at a location remote from the drive unit and which does not emanate from a drive pulley of a the drive unit for the lift cage to move the counterweight and the lift cage when a brake of the drive unit is released, wherein the additional force acts on the lift cage by means of a cable or belt to move the lift cage to a next adjacent story.

2. (original) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the additional force acts on the lift cage by means of a cable pull.

3. (original) The method according to claim 2, characterized in that the cable pull acts on a limiter cable of a speed limiter, wherein the limiter cable is coupled to a safety brake of the lift cage.

4. (currently amended) Equipment for the evacuation of lift passengers trapped in a lift cage having a drive unit and weight equalization with a counterweight by moving the lift cage to a story or to a position near a story, comprising means for producing an additional force remote from the drive unit and not emanating from a drive pulley of a drive unit for the lift cage and for applying the additional force to act on the lift cage when a brake of the drive unit is released.

5. (original) The equipment according to claim 4, wherein the force-producing means comprise a retractable cable or belt coupled to the lift cage.

6. (original) The equipment according to claim 4, wherein the force-producing means comprises a cable pull.

7. (original) The equipment according to claim 6, wherein the force-producing means further comprises a limiter cable of a speed limiter coupled to a safety brake of the lift cage.

8. (original) The equipment according to claim 6 or 7, further comprising a motorized actuator for the cable pull.

9. (original) The equipment according to claim 6 or 7, further comprising a manual actuator for the cable pull.

10. (original) The equipment according to claim 4 wherein the force-producing means includes an energy storage device.